

## Draft Long Term Monitoring Strategy (East San Joaquin Coalition)

**DEFINITION:** A strategy to understand the factors that potentially contribute to water quality impairment and to identify processes to improve water quality in the Coalition's region.

**OBJECTIVES:**

- Track long-term water quality trends within the Coalition.
- Identify water quality impairment in specific sub watersheds.
- Determine causes/sources of water quality impairment.
- Support the Coalition's process in addressing water quality impairment.

**SUCCESS CRITERIA:**

- Compliance with the irrigated discharge program requirements.
- All sources/causes of water quality impairment are identified.
- Management practices are widely adopted by Coalition members when source(s) traced to irrigated agriculture.
- Water quality impairments that are affected by agricultural land uses are addressed.

**LONG-TERM MONITORING STRATEGY:** a four-tiered approach.

***Knowledge building monitoring:*** Monitor preselected sites to develop water quality baseline conditions and trends at locations that represent irrigated agriculture in the Coalition area.

***Regulatory monitoring:*** Monitor rotating sites to evaluate water quality in the Coalition area. Sites will be selected based on the types of farming in each sub watershed and potential risk to waterways (a function of topography, land use, soil types, vegetation, and pesticide use in local crops).

***Effect/Source oriented monitoring:*** Respond to results of most current monitoring data. Develop specific monitoring studies to identify causes and sources (ambient/anthropogenic/specific physical process, etc.) of observed exceedances in selected sub watersheds area.

***Management oriented monitoring:*** Support and update available information on management practices effectiveness in addressing water quality impairment.

